REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended. Claims 1-7 and 13 are pending.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 1, the Examiner stated that the limitation that "said vibration damper being of passive type" in lines 2-3 is vague and indefinite. The phrase "being of passive type" has been deleted accordingly.

Regarding claim 13, the Examiner stated that the limitation "said vibration damper being of passive type" in line 2 is vague. The phrase "being of passive type" has been deleted accordingly.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Muramatsu et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,055,317). The Examiner stated that this rejection might be overcome with a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that the invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another." A declaration with the above showing is attached. For at least these reasons, claims 1-7 and 13 are not anticipated or made obvious by Muramatsu et al.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at (650) 961-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

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